

**Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs
February 6, 2009 Meeting Summary**

The Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs held its February meeting at the Priya Grill, Farmington with H. Sook Wilkinson, Chairperson, presiding. Council member Radha Krishnan hosted this meeting.

Chairperson Wilkinson reviewed the Council's 2008 Annual Report and thanked all of the Council members for their continued hard work and dedication during 2008, in spite of the overwhelming economic challenges in Michigan.

House Bill 6172 passed on Dec. 18, which ultimately resulted in the passage of P.A. 536 of 2008, the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission act, which was signed into law by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm on January 13, 2009. Council members interested in applying for Commission positions are urged to submit their updated résumés to the Governor's Appointments Office as soon as possible.

Mr. Hoon-Yung Hopgood, formerly of the Michigan House of Representatives, was nominated and approved as an Advisory Member of the Council. Mr. Hopgood was formerly an Honorary Member, due to his status as a legislator of the State of Michigan.

Other Business and Announcements: The Seventh Annual Celebration of APA Heritage Month was adopted as an official project of the Council since its former organizer, Mr. Hopgood, is no longer part of the legislative team that formerly coordinated the event. Mr. Hopgood agreed to be the project's lead organizer, assisted by Council members Mac, Dang, Dechavez, Lu, Schlieff, Vang, P. Wong and Krishnan. A date for the event will be announced later.

The Council's annual leadership dialogue meeting will take place following the regular April meeting. The theme this year is "Collaboration: Doing Together What You Cannot Do Alone." Council members Roblee and Haque will coordinate the event, assisted by volunteers from the community.

The Civil Rights, Communications, Cultural, Education, and Immigration committees reported to the Council on their recent activities.

Guest Hannah Feikema from Grand Rapids introduced herself and said that she attends Council meetings because she wants to model west Michigan APA activities on successful ACAPAA projects.

New Business: because there will soon be a new Commission, Council members decided to form a transition team to convey the work and accomplishments of the Council to the Commission; members Wilkinson, Kommareddi, Almeda and Hopgood will be members of that transition team.

The meeting adjourned at 12 Noon. Next meeting of the Council will be on Friday, April 3, 2009 at the UAW-GM Education Center, Detroit.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs was created by a May 2005, Executive Order (No.2005 – 10) from Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, to advise the Governor and the Department of Civil Rights on policy matters pertaining to Asian and Pacific Americans in Michigan. H. Sook Wilkinson, PhD, was appointed Chair of the Council, which was placed administratively inside the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. A copy of the Governor's Executive Order is available on the Governor's website at <http://www.michigan.gov/gov>.